

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 29, 2004, and the patent cited therein have been carefully reviewed, and in view of the above changes and following remarks reconsideration and allowance of all the claims pending in the application are respectfully requested.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Over Watabe

Claims 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Watabe et al. (Watabe), U.S. Patent No. 5,146,291.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention according to either of claims 16 or 17 is not anticipated by Watabe. In particular regarding claim 16, Watabe does not disclose the claimed LDD drain region having an ion concentration that is between about $5 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ to $5 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. Instead, Watabe discloses an LDD region having an ion concentration of $10^{16} - 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. (See Watabe, column 17, lines 2-4.) Plainly, the range of ion concentration disclosed by Watabe is outside the range required by claim 16.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 16 is not anticipated by Watabe. It follows that claim 17, which incorporates the limitations of claim 16, is allowable over Watabe for at least the same reasons that claim 16 is considered allowable.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow claims 16 and 17.

CONCLUSION

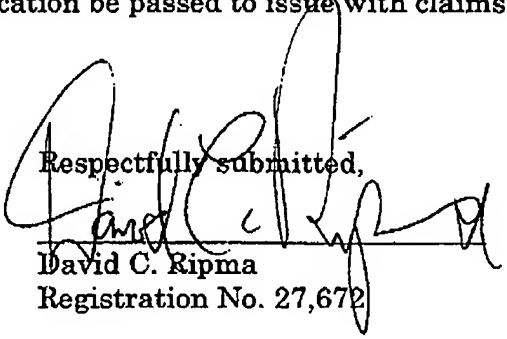
In view of the above amendments and arguments, it is urged that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find that a telephonic or personal interview would expedite passage to issue of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A general authorization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.25(b), second sentence, is hereby given to credit or debit Deposit Account No. 19-1457 for the instant filing and for any other fees during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18.

It is requested that this application be passed to issue with claims 16 and 17.

Respectfully submitted,

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